

REMARKS

In the Office Action¹, the Examiner rejected claims 13 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,463,618 to Furukawa et al. ("Furukawa") in view of allegedly Admitted Prior Art ("APA") and further in view of "Continuous Speech Recognition in Noise Using Spectral Subtraction and HMM Adaptation," 1994 to Flores et al. ("Flores") and allowed claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, and 11.

By this amendment, Applicants have cancelled claims 13 and 14. Since claims 13 and 14 have been cancelled, the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is moot. In view of the above amendments, the application is in condition for allowance, and Applicants accordingly request a formal Notice of Allowance.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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¹ The Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicants decline to automatically subscribe to any statement of characterization in the Office Action.